BLLLEBEARD'S
PICTURE
BOOK $\square$
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From the library of


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& \text { Prisil } 1825 .
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 LUEBEARD'S key, nodoult, unlocked many mysteries, and he may have had among his treasures a picturebook, if only to amuse his swives with,or to divert their attention from bis own dark designs: but it must not be supposed that BLUEBEARD - although he is not Free from the suspicion of having put several beauties to sleep-in presenting haimself again with THE SLEEPING BEAUTY is at all responsible for her enczanted slumber, or that either BLLUEBEARD or THE SLEEPING BEAUTY are concerned with BABY'S Own ALPHABET- except' for the spelling of their own names.
These time honoured personages must, in their present form be rather regarded as the figures in the antique ta: pestry which decorates the storied walls of the festive nursery giust hall, where His Babyship invites, by his letters patent, a motley company of old friends in fancy dress for his disport, and for the pleasure of all contemporary despots of the rattle, not to speak of the larger baby-public content to look over the heads
on the front bench.
Or,'an it may please you, we may take, as the more natural order our A.B.C. first (as indeed we should) to represent the "curtain raiser"- something light and playful before the heavy tragedy of BLLIEBEARD, \& the fairy romance of THE SLEEPING BEAUTY It is all one-at least they are all in one book now: and it is hoped, both by attist and publisher, that they will "fill the bill", and draw the baby-public, small and gireat, as of old.
At all events one may feet certain that when BABY has learnt hisOWN ALPHABEThe will be sure to demand a book of the words - so here it is.


Streatley-or-Thames. Aug: 1899.

WALTER CRANES PICTUREBOOKS: REISSUE M B












LOMDON-\&NEW-YORK IOHN-L ANE THE BODLEY-HEAD.




















UUPhill spareme, Down hill 'ware me, On level ground spare me not, $\}$ And inthe stable forget me not.




Wh TER:CRANEB.
PICTURE-DOOKS.


